Space Weather Forecast

Issued on Tuesday 29 October 2024 at 14:44 Local

This forecast provides a four-day assessment of space weather events. The probabilities stated below are for reaching or exceeding the given levels. For more information about space weather impacts please see the Met Office Space Weather Scales https://www.metoffice.gov.uk/weather/learn-about/space-weather/uk-scales

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Space Weather Forecast Headline: S2 Moderate Solar Radiation Storm ongoing. Further M-class flares expected with chance of X-class flares.

Analysis of Space Weather Activity over past 24 hours

Solar Activity: Moderate with eleven sunspots on the disc and Moderate flares observed, the strongest at 28/1628 UTC from the region in the northeast. This is a relatively small but complex region, that is now showing opposite magnetic polarities on its trailer spot. The central region of the cluster of sunspots in the southeast approaching centre disc have simplified in recent hours and showed signs of decay. A new region is evident coming over the northeast limb of the disc, but will need to rotate further around the disc to conduct a proper analysis. The other regions are generally simpler or smaller.

No Earth-directed CMEs (coronal mass ejections) were observed.

Solar Wind / Geomagnetic Activity: The solar environment has been under the influence of declining CME effects from a CME which arrived early on the 28 Oct. Solar winds were initially elevated around 540 km/s and have then eased to slightly elevated levels of 480 km/s by the end of the period. Interplanetary Magnetic Field (IMF), Bt, was weak and the north-south component, Bz, varied weakly. The resulting geomagnetic activity was Quiet to unsettled (Kp2-3).

Energetic Particles / Solar Radiation: The count rate of energetic particles (High energy protons) persisted at the S2 Moderate Solar Radiation Storm level., on a slow declining trend.

Four-Day Space Weather Forecast Summary

Solar Activity: Moderate to High activity is expected, with further Moderate class flares expected and a chance of isolated Strong class flares.

Solar Wind / Geomagnetic Activity: There are no further CME arrivals currently expected. Ongoing CME influence is forecast to ease day 1 (29 Oct). Solar winds are expected to ease from Slightly elevated to Background, however some influence from the fast wind of a weak coronal hole may delay this until day 2 (30 Oct). Geomagnetic activity is forecast to ease to be mainly Quiet with isolated Unsettled intervals from day 1 (29 Oct) onward.

Energetic Particles / Solar Radiation: The count rate of energetic particles (High energy protons) is expected to persist just above S2 Moderate Radiation Storm level at first, gradually declining

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through the period, and likely staying above S1 until at least day 2 (30 Oct).

Geomagnetic Storms

Geomagnetic Storm Probability (Exceedance)	Level	Past 24 Hours (Yes/No)	Day 1 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 2 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 3 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 4 (00-24 UTC) (%)
Minor or Moderate	G1 to G2	No	5	5	5	5
Strong	G3	No	1	1	1	1
Severe	G4	No	1	1	1	1
Extreme	G5	No	1	1	1	1

Radio Blackouts - X-Ray Flares

X-Ray Flares Probability	Level	Past 24 Hours (Yes/No)	Day 1 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 2 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 3 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 4 (00-24 UTC) (%)
Active	R1-R2 (M Class)	Yes	80	80	80	80
Very Active	R3-R5 (X Class)	No	20	20	20	20

Solar Radiation Storms (High Energy Protons)

Radiation Storms Probability (Exceedance)	Level ($cm^{-2}sr^{-1}s^{-1}$)	Past 24 Hours (Yes/No)	Day 1 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 2 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 3 (00-24 UTC) (%)	Day 4 (00-24 UTC) (%)
Active	≥ S1	Yes	99	50	30	10
Very Active	≥ S3 *	No	5	5	5	5
* S3 ≥ 10 MeV ≥ 1000 pfu and/or 50 MeV ≥ 10pfu. (pfu = $cm^{-2}sr^{-1}s^{-1}$)						

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